

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of scheduling a plurality of HARQ processes involving packet combining in a mobile communication system, wherein a plurality of HARQ processes are established in a transmitter and a receiver, ~~said~~ the method comprising the steps of:

configuring a plurality of HARQ processes of unrestricted use for data flows having predetermined quality of service (QoS) requirements and

configuring at least one reserved HARQ process for data flows of high priority with specific QoS requirements, wherein the reserved HARQ process is restricted to some supports a lower modulation coding scheme levels in accordance with a memory size of a soft buffer reserved for the reserved HARQ process level compared with the modulation coding scheme level of said plurality of HARQ processes of unrestricted use.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the additional steps of:

scheduling the plurality of data flows from at least one priority queue and emptying the priority queue to one or the plurality of configured HARQ processes for transmission.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reserved HARQ process has a less complete functionality compared with the plurality of HARQ processes of unrestricted use.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reserved HARQ process supports a lower transport format resource combination compared with the transport format resource combination of the plurality of HARQ processes.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the reserved HARQ process supports Chase Combining or Incremental Redundancy according to an available memory size in the a soft buffer.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein for the reserved HARQ process, a smaller soft buffer size is reserved at the receiver compared with that reserved for the plurality of HARQ processes.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the transmitter signals to the receiver to use a separate re-ordering buffer for the reserved HARQ process.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an identification for the reserved HARQ process is signaled to the receiver.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the number of reserved processes and the number of the plurality of HARQ processes are matched to the round trip delay (RTD) caused by transmission time and processing time at the receiver and the transmitter.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the number of configured HARQ processes varies dynamically in accordance with a system parameter.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the system parameter is one of the plurality of round trip time, processing time, traffic burstiness, quality of service, modulation coding scheme, timing of shared channels and minimum transmission time interval.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a configuration for the HARQ processes is signaled from the transmitter to the receiver by an HARQ protocol control packet.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the HARQ protocol control packet is identified by inband signaling.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the signaling is performed explicitly or implicitly.

17. (Canceled).